Abkari Contract to Mr. Subrahmanya Karayalar.

305. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Mr. S. Subrahmanya Karayalar has requested that he be given the sole contract for the supply of jaggery and cocoanut toddy arrack throughout the State, and, if so, what orders have been passed on that application?

(*b*) Is there a Government order prohibiting the grant of abkari contracts to Mr. Karayalar in the State?

(*c*) If so, will they be pleased to place a copy of that order on the table?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes. The application was recorded.

(*b*) The answer is in the negative.

(*c*) In view of the answer to part (*b*), the question does not arise.

Huzur Records and Account Sections.

306. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state:

(1) the designation, present pay and qualification of the officer who is put in charge of the English and Vernacular records of the General and Revenue Secretariat; and

(2) the pay and designation of this officer in 1094?

(*b*) Is it a fact that this officer is also put in charge of the Account Branch of the General and Revenue Secretariat, which was hitherto under the control of the Secretary in charge of the General Section?

(*c*) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Government be pleased to state the reasons for placing this section under the officer mentioned above, the number of hands employed under him, and the name, pay and qualification of the Superintendent in charge of that section?

(*d*) Was any increase to his pay as Stationery Superintendent granted to this officer in consideration of his being put in charge of the Central Vernacular Records or the Account Branch of the Revenue and General Secretariat, and, if so, by how much?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) (1) The designation of the officer is "Superintendent of Stationery and Records"; his present pay is Rs 200; qualification—Matriculate.

(2) Pay and designation in 1094—Sub-Treasury Officer, Alleppey; pay Rs. 120.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The attention of Government having been drawn to the confusion prevailing in the Account Branch of the Secretariat which formed part of the General Section, the Efficiency Audit Officer was directed to suggest measures for its orderly working. He suggested that the Account Branch be separated from the General Section and

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formed into a separate section. This was done, and the newly formed Account Section, consisting of a Head Accountant, 1 clerk on Rs. 75-100, and 3 clerks on Rs. 45 to 70 and one clerk on Rs. 20 to 40, was placed under the Superintendent of Stationery.

(*d*) The pay of this officer was raised by Rs. 25 temporarily in consideration of the additional work involved. In Chingam, 1098, the pay was revised along with that of the other officers of the Secretariat and fixed at Rs. 200-25/2-250. No special pay is given to him for being in charge of the Account Section or the Central Vernacular Records.

Unused Road Materials.

307. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state;

(*a*) whether there are any safeguards for the prevention of unused road materials being remeasured and paid for again, and, if so, what; and

(*b*) whether the orders, if any in this respect, are being strictly enforced?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes. Unused materials are recorded in monthly road material statements. Before a new supply is started, the unused materials lying on road sides are measured over to the contractors for the supply of materials, and their receipts obtained; and at the time of making payments, the unused materials are deducted and the balance alone paid for.

(*b*) Yes. They are reported to be enforced by the Division and Subdivision Officers.

Compulsory Retirement of Mr. H. R. Gunther.

308. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that they have ordered the compulsory retirement from the service of First Grade Inspector, Mr. H. R. Gunther, and, if so, the charges framed against him and submitted to the Government for their consideration by the Excise Commissioner?

(*b*) Was Mr. Gunther given an opportunity to explain the charges reported against him by the Excise Commissioner by granting him the copies relating to such charges; and, if so, what was the purport of his defence?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Yes. The Government are not prepared to disclose the charges framed departmentally against public servants.

(*b*) Yes. He was heard by the Dewan. Government offered to show him the records relating to the charges against him; but Mr. Gunther did not choose to peruse them or put in a defence.

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